

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed June 5, 2006 (the "Office Action"). Claims 1-54 are pending in this application. Claims 25-54 have been previously withdrawn. Claims 1-24 stand rejected. Applicants amend Claims 1, 9, and 17 and respectfully request reconsideration and favorable action in this case in view of the following remarks.

Objection to Drawings

Applicants have designated Figures 1, 2, and 3, as "Prior Art" to address the Office Action's objection. Accordingly, Applicants request that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by what the Office Action characterizes as "Applicant's Admitted Prior Art." Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for the reasons set forth below.

Amended Claim 1 is directed to a method of reorganizing a tablespace in a database. The method comprises reading a row of data from a database having a plurality of rows and: (a) analyzing the row of data from the database; (b) determining whether to eliminate or retain the row of data based on at least one predetermined rule; (c) if it is determined that the row of data complies with the at least one predetermined rule, reloading the row of data into the database; (d) if it is determined that the row of data does not comply with the at least one predetermined rule, eliminating the row of data; and (e) rebuilding an index related to the database to include keys that correspond to the reloaded row of data. Steps (b) through (e) are performed for each of a plurality of rows. Each of steps (b) through (e) are completed with respect to any particular row of the plurality of rows before any of steps (b) through (e) are performed with respect to a next row of the plurality of rows.

The Office Action rejects Claim 1 and contends that each of the limitations of Claim 1 is disclosed by Figures 1, 2, and 3 of the present application and pages 1-4 of the "Related Art" section of Applicants' specification (collectively "Applicants' Related Art"). The Office

Action contends that such disclosure is “Applicant’s Admitted Prior Art.” Applicants respectfully disagree. Even assuming *arguendo* that the Office Action has properly characterized Applicants’ Related Art as admitted prior art, each of the limitations of Claim 1 is not disclosed as contended by the Office Action. At a minimum, Applicants’ Related Art does not disclose, teach, or suggest, that steps (b) through (e) are performed for each of a plurality of rows, and that each of steps (b) through (e) are completed with respect to any particular row of the plurality of rows before any of steps (b) through (e) are performed with respect to a next row of the plurality of rows.

Moreover, the Office Action contends that “determining whether to eliminate or retain the row of data based on at least one predetermined rule” and “reloading the row of data into the database when it is determined that the row of data complies with the at least one predetermined rule” is disclosed by Applicants’ Related Art. (Office Action at 3.) However, Applicants’ Related Art discloses, “When data in a row of a database or relation does not satisfy constraints or fails to maintain referential integrity, the data may be deleted” (App. Related Art at 2, lines 13-14), and “the row is reloaded into the database if the data in the row has not been deleted by the checking utility” (App. Related Art at 3, lines 13-14). In contrast, Claim 1 discloses performing the reloading operation based on the same at least one predetermined rule on which the determining is based. Applicants’ Related Art discloses a determination based on compliance with a constraint or a failure to maintain referential integrity and a reloading based on a separate rule--whether the data has been deleted.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully contend that Applicants’ Related Art does not disclose, teach or suggest each of the limitations of Claim 1. Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of Claim 1 be withdrawn.

Claims 2-8 each depend, either directly or indirectly, from Claim 1 and incorporate all the limitations thereof. Therefore, Claims 2-8 are each patentably distinguishable from Applicants’ Related Art for at least the same reasons as discussed above with regard to Claim 1.

The Office Action rejects Claims 9 and 17 on the same grounds as it rejects Claim 1. Amended Claims 9 and 17 each include limitations generally directed to performing steps (b) through (e) for each of a plurality of rows, and that each of steps (b) through (e) are completed with respect to any particular row of the plurality of rows before any of steps (b) through (e) are performed with respect to a next row of the plurality of rows. Because Claims 9 and 17 are rejected on the same grounds as Claim 1, Applicants contend that Claims 9 and

17 are each patentably distinguishable from Applicants' Related Art for at least the same reasons as discussed above with regard to Claim 1.

Claims 10-16 each depend, either directly or indirectly, from Claim 9 and incorporate all the limitations thereof. Claims 18-24 each depend, either directly or indirectly, from Claim 17 and incorporate all of its limitations. Therefore, Claims 10-16 and 18-24 are each patentably distinguishable from Applicants' Related Art for at least the same reasons as discussed above with regard to Claims 1, 9, and 17.

CONCLUSION

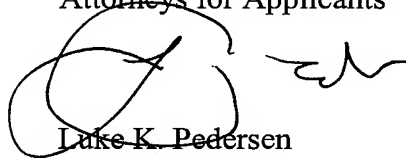
Applicants have now made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for immediate allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicants respectfully request allowance of Claims 1-24.

Applicants submit a Request for One Month Extension. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the amount of \$120.00 to satisfy the above calculated Extension of Time Fee, any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

If there are matters that can be discussed by telephone to further the prosecution of this application, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner call their attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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